

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

1-9 cancelled

10. (currently amended) A method for adjusting a volumetric flow-variable positive displacement pump in an internal combustion engine, the method comprising the steps of:
- a) driving the positive displacement pump;
 - b) transporting fluid to consumption points in the internal combustion engine;
 - c) determining at least one characteristic of the internal combustion engine;
 - d) transmitting said characteristic as an actual value signal to a controller;
 - e) comparing said actual value signal with a predetermined setpoint value;
 - f) generating an adjusting signal from a deviation between said actual value signal and said setpoint value;
 - g) feeding said adjusting signal to a final control element;
 - h) ~~changing a volumetric flow~~ an internal pump volume of the positive displacement pump by means of said final control element as a function of said adjusting signal; and
 - i) repeating steps a) through h) until said actual value signal is the same as said setpoint value.
11. (currently amended) The method of claim 10, wherein said at least one characteristic is at least one of a suction pressure, a delivery pressure, a speed of the internal combustion engine, a speed of the

4

positive displacement ~~pump pump~~, a temperature of the fluid, and a delivery rate of the fluid.

12. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein said setpoint value comprises a setpoint value range.
13. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the volumetric flow is changed only when said adjusting signal exceeds a threshold value.
14. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein a multi-purpose motor control computer is used as said controller.
15. (previously presented) The method of claim 14, wherein said motor control computer is supplemented with positive displacement pump data and calculation rules for said setpoint value comparison with said actual value and for generation of said adjusting signal.
16. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein said final control element is actuated against a restoring force.
17. (previously presented) The method of claim 16, wherein said restoring force is generated by a restoring spring.
18. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein a delivery volume of the positive displacement pump is reduced on actuation of said final control element.

5

19. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the positive displacement pump is adjusted to maximum volumetric flow upon failure of a control chain or of an individual component.